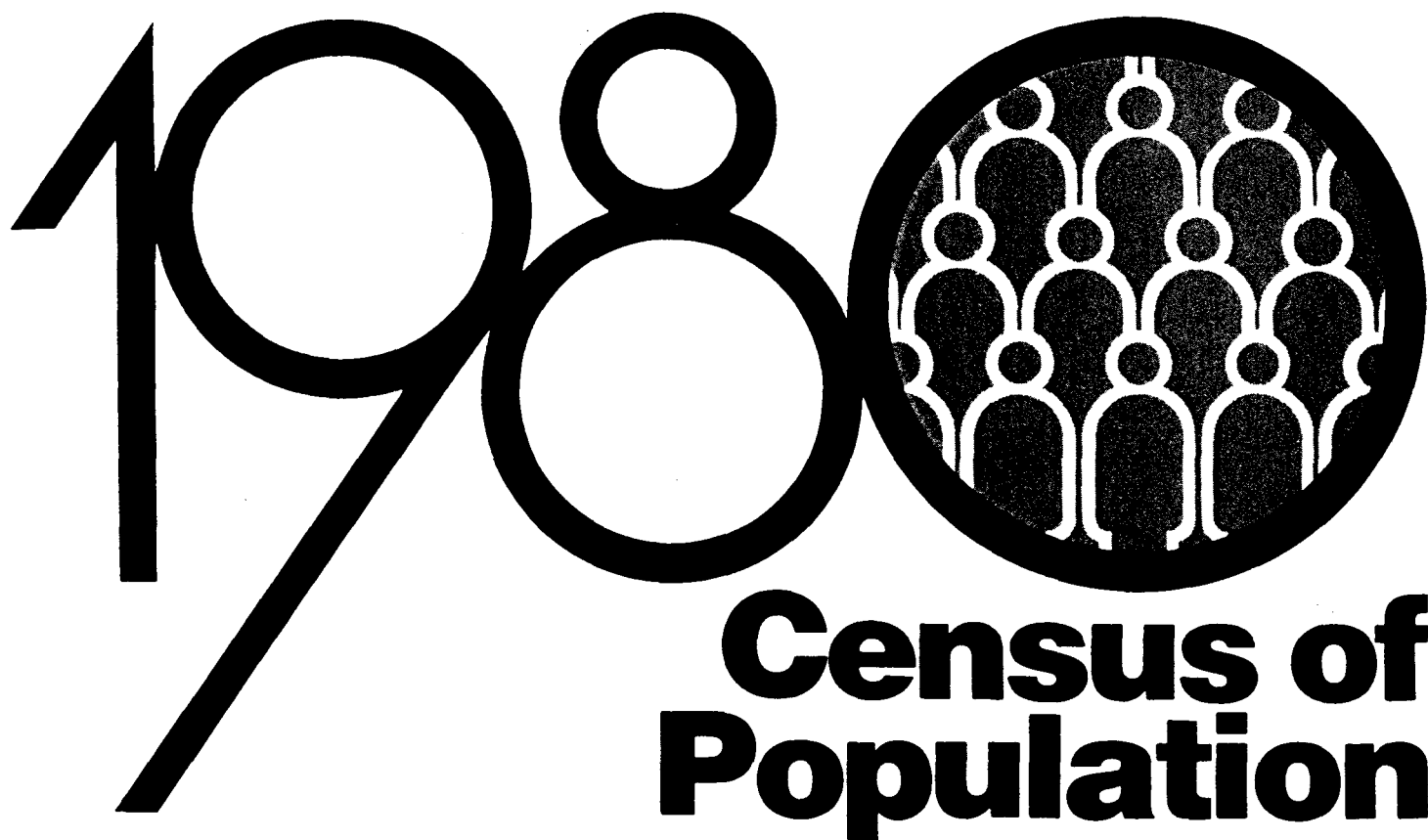
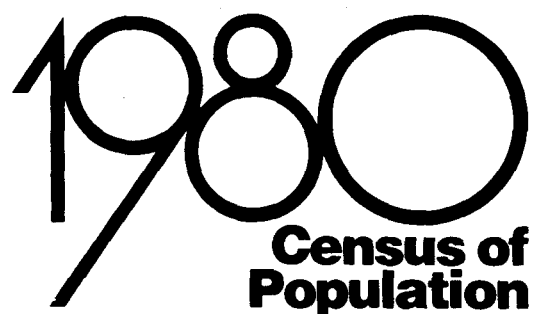


# Ancestry of the Population by State: 1980



# Census of Population

U.S. Department of Commerce  
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS



# Ancestry of the Population by State: 1980

## **SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT**

PC80-S1-10

Issued April 1983



U.S. Department of Commerce  
Malcolm Baldrige, Secretary  
Guy W. Fiske,  
Deputy Secretary  
Robert G. Dederick,  
Under Secretary for  
Economic Affairs

**BUREAU OF THE CENSUS**  
Bruce Chapman, Director



## **BUREAU OF THE CENSUS**

**Bruce Chapman, Director**

**C.L. Kincannon, Deputy Director**

### **POPULATION DIVISION**

**Roger A. Herriot, Chief**

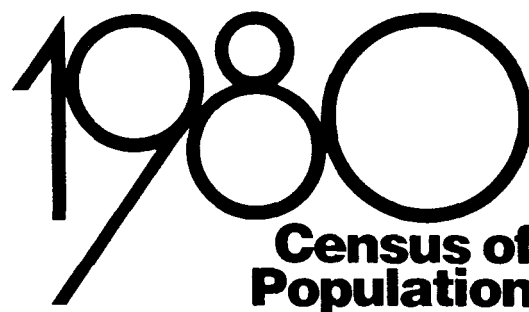
## **Acknowledgments**

---

The report was planned and developed under the primary direction of **Nampeo D.R. McKenney**, Assistant Chief (Ethnic and Racial Statistics Programs), Population Division. The report was prepared by **Edward W. Fernandez**, Chief, and **Nancy S. Sweet**, Ethnic and Spanish Statistics Branch, assisted by **Michael J. Levin** and **Arthur R. Cresce**. Important contributions were made by **David B. Lipscomb**; assistance was also provided by **Regina C. Burnette** and **Ruth E. Wolff**.

---

For sale by Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, or any U.S. Department of Commerce district office. Postage stamps not acceptable; currency submitted at sender's risk. Remittances from foreign countries must be by international money order or by draft on a U.S. bank.



# Ancestry of the Population by State: 1980

## SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

PC80-S1-10

### Contents

	Page
Introduction . . . . .	1
Definitions and Explanations . . . . .	6
Accuracy of the Data . . . . .	77

### TEXT TABLES

A. Type of Ancestry Response by Region: 1980 . . . . .	1
B. Percent Distribution of European (Excluding Spaniard) Ancestry Groups With 1,000,000 or More Persons by Region: 1980 . . . . .	2
C. Largest Five States for European (Excluding Spaniard) Ancestry Groups With 1,000,000 or More Persons: 1980 . . . . .	2
D. Percent Distribution of Ancestry Groups Not Included in the European (Excluding Spaniard) Classification Reported by 75,000 or More Persons by Region: 1980. . . . .	3
E. Type of Ancestry Response: 1980 Census and November 1979 CPS . . . . .	4
F. Selected Ancestry Groups: 1980 Census and November 1979 CPS . . . . .	5
G. Unique Triple-Ancestry Categories Identified in the 1980 Census . . . . .	6
H. Examples of Responses Included in Specified Residual Categories of the Eight Ancestry Classifications Presented in PC80-S1-10. . . . .	7
I. Comparison of Ancestry Categories in PC80-S1-10 With Those in Other 1980 Census Data Products . . . . .	8
J. Unadjusted Standard Errors for Estimated Totals . . . . .	83
K. Unadjusted Standard Error in Percentage Points for Estimated Percentages. . .	83
L. Standard Error Adjustment Factors . . . . .	84

### DETAILED TABLES

1. Type of Ancestry Response for Regions, Divisions, and States: 1980. . . . .	10
2. Persons Who Reported <i>at Least One</i> Specific Ancestry Group for the United States: 1980 . . . . .	12
3. Persons Who Reported <i>at Least One</i> Specific Ancestry Group for Regions, Divisions, and States: 1980 . . . . .	15
3a. Persons Who Reported <i>a Single</i> Ancestry Group for Regions, Divisions, and States: 1980 . . . . .	33
3b. Persons Who Reported <i>a Multiple</i> Ancestry Group for Regions, Divisions, and States: 1980 . . . . .	51
4. Rank of States for Selected Ancestry Groups With 100,000 or More Persons: 1980. . . . .	69

# Introduction

## GENERAL

This report presents 1980 census information on the population size and geographic distribution of more than 100 ancestry groups<sup>1</sup> in the United States. The general ancestry question was based on self-identification, provided no prelisted categories, and allowed for one or more ancestry responses. This was the first census to collect ethnic data on persons regardless of the number of generations removed from their country of origin. Ethnic information collected in previous censuses came from questions on country of birth of persons and their parents and identified ethnicity for only foreign-born native persons of foreign or mixed parentage.

Ethnic questions based on self-identification are subject to certain response problems. A section describing limitations of the 1980 census data on ancestry is included in this "Introduction."

Table 1 shows the type of response to the ancestry item for the regions, divisions, and States. Table 2 presents 1980 census totals for specific ancestry groups for the United States. Table 3 shows totals for ancestry groups for regions, divisions, and States; comparable data for ancestry groups reported singly or in combination with other groups are shown in tables 3a and 3b. Table 4 presents the rank of States according to the number of persons in selected ancestry groups. A "Definitions and Explanations" section about criteria for ancestry group selection is included in this report.

## TYPE OF ANCESTRY RESPONSE

About 83 percent of the United States population reported at least one specific

<sup>1</sup> In this report, the terms "ancestry" and "origin" (and ancestry group and ethnic group) are used interchangeably.

ancestry in the 1980 census. The remaining 17 percent of the population included about 6 percent who reported "American" or "United States," 1 percent who provided a religious or unclassifiable response, and 10 percent who did not report any ancestry (tables A and 1).

The type of ancestry response provided by the respondents varied by geographic area. The proportion of the population reporting at least one specific ancestry group was slightly above the national level (83 percent) in each region except the South where the proportion was only 77 percent. The South also had the largest proportion of the population reporting "American" or "United States" (9 percent) or that did not report any ancestry (14 percent).

Some respondents reported a single ancestry group while others reported more than one ancestry group, i.e., a multiple response. All single- and double-ancestry responses were coded. In addition, 17 triple-origin ancestries expected to be reported frequently were coded; only the first 2 reported ancestries were coded for all other multiple responses. Since multiple ancestry responses are classified in each applicable group, the sum of the ancestry groups is greater than the total number of persons; e.g., persons reporting English-

German were tabulated in both the "English" and "German" categories.

Nationally, 52 percent of the population reported a single specific ancestry; 31 percent provided a multiple response. In each region, the percentage of the population reporting a single ancestry was greater than that reporting multiple ancestries. However, there were differences among the regions in the proportions providing multiple origins: In the North Central and West, more than one-third of the population gave a multiple response; in the South, the proportion was less than one-fourth (tables A and 1).

## ANCESTRY GROUPS

### Largest Ancestry Groups

The results of the 1980 census show that English and German were the most frequently reported ancestry groups. About 50 million persons were reported as being solely or partly of English ancestry, while German or part-German accounted for 49 million persons (table 2).

Figures for the most frequently reported ancestry groups (single and multiple combined) were:

Table A. Type of Ancestry Response by Region: 1980

Type of ancestry response	United States		Region (percent)			
	Number	Percent	North-east	North Central	South	West
Total persons.....	226 545 805	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Reported at least one specific ancestry.....	188 302 438	83.1	87.5	85.1	76.5	86.9
Single ancestry.....	118 564 678	52.3	55.8	48.6	53.3	51.8
Multiple ancestry.....	69 737 760	30.8	31.7	36.6	23.2	35.1
Ancestry not specified.....	38 243 367	16.9	12.5	14.9	23.5	13.1
American or United States.....	13 298 761	5.9	3.9	5.1	9.0	3.7
Other <sup>1</sup> .....	1 762 587	0.8	1.0	0.5	0.8	0.9
Not reported.....	23 182 019	10.2	7.7	9.2	13.7	8.4

<sup>1</sup> Includes responses indicating religious groups or unclassifiable responses.

English .....	50 million
German .....	49 million
Irish .....	40 million
Afro-American <sup>2</sup> .....	21 million
French <sup>3</sup> .....	13 million
Italian .....	12 million
Scottish .....	10 million
Polish .....	8 million
Mexican <sup>2</sup> .....	8 million
American Indian <sup>2</sup> .....	7 million
Dutch .....	6 million

The next largest ancestry groups (in rank order from 4 million to at least 1 million persons) were Swedish, Norwegian, "Russian n.e.c.,"<sup>4</sup> Spanish/Hispanic,<sup>5</sup> Czech, Hungarian, Welsh, Danish, Puerto Rican, and Portuguese (table 2).

The ancestry data from the 1980 census reflect the diverse nationality groups which have come to the United States throughout its history. Prior to the 17th century, most of the residents of this country were American Indians; however, most of the 7 million respondents who reported American Indian ancestry in the 1980 census did so in combination with other groups, such as German, Irish, and English. Persons of English, German, and Irish origin—the three largest groups reported in the census—were the first Europeans to arrive in large numbers; the immigration of these groups peaked in the late 19th century. From the early 17th century to the early 19th century, many Africans were forcibly moved to the United States. The number of "newer immigrant" groups, including the Italian and Polish, reached an apex in the early part of the 20th century. Other groups, such as Portuguese and Greek, have had significant, but relatively smaller, streams of immigrants settling in this country. The immigrants during the last 2 decades include substantial numbers of West Indian, Spanish, and Asian persons; the latter two groups were also among earlier immigrants to this country.

<sup>2</sup> See "Definitions and Explanations" for discussion of these groups.

<sup>3</sup> Excludes French Basque.

<sup>4</sup> Includes persons who reported as "Russian," "Great Russian," "Georgian," and other related European or Asian groups; see "Definitions and Explanations" for more details.

<sup>5</sup> This category represents a general type of response, which may encompass several ancestry groups.

## Geographic Distribution

**European Ancestry Groups**—Table B shows the percent distribution by region of the 16 ancestry groups with 1 million or more persons included under the "European (excluding Spaniard)" classification. This classification, shown in tables 2, 3, 3a, and 3b, is also referred to as "European" in this text.

Of the largest European ancestries, Irish, French, Scottish, Dutch, and Welsh were distributed fairly evenly throughout the four regions. Other groups were more concentrated (table B). For instance, more than one-half of the Nation's

Italians and Norwegians lived in the Northeast and North Central regions, respectively. About 50 percent of Portuguese and 48 percent of Russian n.e.c.<sup>4</sup> were concentrated in the Northeast region, and almost one-half of Czechs were in the North Central region.

California, the recipient of large numbers of migrants, ranked first in population size for many of the largest European ancestry groups (table C). In 1980, more English, German, Irish, French, Scottish, Dutch, Swedish, Danish, and Portuguese lived in California than in any other State. New York, the traditional port of entry for many immigrant

Table B. **Percent Distribution of European (Excluding Spaniard) Ancestry Groups With 1,000,000 or More Persons by Region: 1980**

Ancestry group	Number (1,000)	Percent distribution				
		Total	North- east	North Central	South	West
English.....	49 598	100	16	23	40	21
German.....	49 224	100	19	41	22	18
Irish.....	40 166	100	24	26	32	18
French <sup>1</sup> .....	12 892	100	26	27	27	19
Italian.....	12 184	100	57	16	13	14
Scottish.....	10 049	100	19	23	35	24
Polish.....	8 228	100	41	38	11	10
Dutch.....	6 304	100	18	35	26	20
Swedish.....	4 345	100	15	43	12	31
Norwegian.....	3 454	100	7	55	7	31
Russian n.e.c. <sup>2</sup> .....	2 781	100	48	17	16	19
Czech.....	1 892	100	18	49	18	15
Hungarian.....	1 777	100	39	33	13	14
Welsh.....	1 665	100	25	27	22	27
Danish.....	1 518	100	9	38	10	43
Portuguese.....	1 024	100	50	3	6	41

NOTE: Includes persons who reported single and multiple ancestry group(s). Persons who reported a multiple ancestry group may be included in more than one category.

<sup>1</sup>Excludes French Basque.

<sup>2</sup>Includes persons who reported as "Russian," "Great Russian," "Georgian," and other related European or Asian groups; see "Definitions and Explanations" for more details.

Table C. **Largest Five States for European (Excluding Spaniard) Ancestry Groups With 1,000,000 or More Persons: 1980**

Ancestry group	Rank of States				
	First	Second	Third	Fourth	Fifth
English.....	Calif.	Tex.	Ohio	N.Y.	Fla.
German.....	Calif.	Pa.	Ohio	Ill.	N.Y.
Irish.....	Calif.	N.Y.	Pa.	Tex.	Ohio
French <sup>1</sup> .....	Calif.	La.	Mich.	Mass.	N.Y.
Italian.....	N.Y.	N.J.	Pa.	Calif.	Mass.
Scottish.....	Calif.	Tex.	Pa.	Fla.	N.Y.
Polish.....	N.Y.	Ill.	Pa.	Mich.	N.J.
Dutch.....	Calif.	Mich.	Pa.	N.Y.	Ohio
Swedish.....	Calif.	Minn.	Ill.	Wash.	Mich.
Norwegian.....	Minn.	Wis.	Calif.	Wash.	N.D.
Russian n.e.c. <sup>2</sup> .....	N.Y.	Calif.	Pa.	N.J.	Fla.
Czech.....	Ill.	Tex.	Calif.	Wis.	N.Y.
Hungarian.....	N.Y.	Ohio	Pa.	N.J.	Calif.
Welsh.....	Pa.	Calif.	Ohio	N.Y.	Fla.
Danish.....	Calif.	Utah	Minn.	Iowa	Wis.
Portuguese.....	Calif.	Mass.	R.I.	Hawaii	N.J.

NOTE: Includes persons who reported single and multiple ancestry group(s). Persons who reported a multiple ancestry group may be included in more than one category.

<sup>1</sup>Excludes French Basque.

<sup>2</sup>Includes persons who reported as "Russian," "Great Russian," "Georgian," and other related European or Asian groups; see "Definitions and Explanations" for more details.

**Table D. Percent Distribution of Ancestry Groups Not Included in the European (Excluding Spaniard) Classification Reported by 75,000 or More Persons by Region: 1980**

Ancestry group	Number (1,000)	Percent distribution				
		Total	North- east	North Central	South	West
NORTH AFRICAN AND MIDDLE EASERNER						
Lebanese.....	295	100	31	27	26	16
Armenian.....	213	100	39	14	5	42
Iranian.....	123	100	17	15	26	42
Syrian.....	107	100	47	20	18	15
Arab/Arabian*.....	93	100	19	29	21	30
SUBSAHARA AFRICAN						
Afro-American.....	20 965	100	17	22	53	9
African*.....	204	100	33	19	33	15
ASIAN (excluding Middle Easterner)						
Chinese.....	894	100	25	9	12	55
Filipino.....	795	100	10	11	11	68
Japanese.....	791	100	7	8	9	77
Korean.....	377	100	18	18	20	43
Asian Indian.....	312	100	35	23	23	19
Vietnamese.....	215	100	9	14	33	44
NON-SPANISH CARIBBEAN, CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICAN						
Jamaican.....	253	100	70	6	18	5
Haitian.....	90	100	72	4	21	2
SPANISH						
Mexican.....	7 693	100	1	9	35	55
Spanish/Hispanic*.....	2 687	100	23	8	26	43
Puerto Rican.....	1 444	100	73	11	8	7
Cuban.....	598	100	24	4	63	9
Dominican.....	171	100	91	1	6	2
Colombian.....	156	100	54	7	26	13
Spaniard <sup>1</sup> .....	95	100	36	6	36	22
Ecuadoran.....	88	100	64	7	11	18
Salvadoran.....	85	100	13	3	9	75
PACIFIC						
Hawaiian.....	202	100	2	3	6	89
NORTH AMERICAN						
American Indian.....	6 716	100	9	24	44	24
French Canadian.....	780	100	47	23	13	17
Canadian.....	456	100	42	19	15	23

NOTE: Data for some of the groups in Table D are also available from the 1980 census race and Spanish origin items which are the primary data sources for these groups; a discussion of the use of these data appears in the "Definitions and Explanations" section.

Data include persons who reported single and multiple ancestry group(s). Persons who reported a multiple ancestry group may be included in more than one category.

\*This category represents a general type of response, which may encompass several ancestry groups.

<sup>1</sup>Excludes Spanish Basque.

groups, had the largest number of persons reported in the Italian, Polish, "Russian n.e.c.," and Hungarian groups. Other states ranking first were Minnesota for Norwegians, Illinois for Czechs, and Pennsylvania for Welsh. California was one of the five top-ranking States for each of the largest European groups, except Polish who were primarily located in the Northeast and North Central regions (tables C and 4).

Large regional and State concentrations are also evident for a few of the European ancestry groups with less than 1 million persons. Specifically, data from table 3 show that about 70 percent

of the Slovenes in this country lived in the North Central region, mostly in Ohio. The proportions of Croatians, Serbians, and Finnish residing in the North Central were also high—57 percent, 54 percent, and 49 percent, respectively. More than one-half of the Ukrainians and about one-half of the Slovaks in the United States were located in the Northeast, with the largest numbers of these groups living in Pennsylvania.

**Ancestry Groups Not Included in European Category**—Table D shows the population size and regional distribution of 28 ancestry groups with 75,000 or more

persons. These groups are included in 7 broad classification categories:

North African and Middle Easterner  
Subsahara African  
Asian (excluding Middle Easterner)  
Non-Spanish Caribbean, Central and South American  
Spanish  
Pacific  
North American

The 28 largest groups presented in table D reflect the Nation's ethnic diversity, range widely in population size, and show different geographic distribution patterns within the United States. In 1980, only five of the groups—Afro-American, Mexican, American Indian, Spanish/Hispanic<sup>5</sup>, and Puerto Rican—had more than 1 million persons; five groups—Spaniard, Arab/Arabian<sup>5</sup>, Haitian, Ecuadoran, and Salvadoran—had fewer than 100,000 persons. (Data for some of the groups in table D are also available from the 1980 census race and Spanish origin items which are the primary data sources for these groups; a discussion of the use of these data appear in the "Definitions and Explanations" section.)

The regional distribution of the largest Middle Easterner and North African groups varied considerably. About one-half of all Syrians resided in the Northeast (mainly New York), while 42 percent of Iranians lived in the West (primarily California). Furthermore, Armenians were concentrated in the West (42 percent) and Northeast (39 percent). The Lebanese and Arab/Arabian<sup>5</sup> groups were more evenly distributed throughout the four regions (tables D and 3).

The majority of the 11 groups under the "Spanish" and "Non-Spanish Caribbean, Central and South American" classifications in table D were heavily concentrated in one region; however, the specific region varied by group. The Northeast contained about 70 percent of the Jamaicans, Haitians, and Puerto Ricans, and 91 percent of the Dominicans in this country. High proportions of the Ecuadorans (64 percent) and Colombians (54 percent) in the United States also resided in this region. The primary residence was different for other groups: Cubans were largely in the South, Salva-

<sup>5</sup> This category represents a general type of response, which may encompass several ancestry groups.

dorans in the West, and Mexicans in the South (primarily Texas) and West, and Spaniards in the Northeast and South (tables D and 3).

Persons reporting French Canadian or Canadian resided largely in the Northeast, 47 percent and 42 percent, respectively. However, the North Central region contained 23 percent of the French Canadians, and the West had the same proportion of Canadians. In the Northeast, the French Canadians and Canadians were found primarily in the States of Massachusetts and New York (tables D and 4).

Similarly to European groups, some of the non-European groups had high proportions (50 percent or more) residing in one State. Figures from tables 3 and 4 show that New York, for example, contained more than 70 percent of Barbadians, Dominicans, Dominica Islanders, and Guyanese in the United States, as well as high proportions of Trinidadians and Tobagonians, Haitians, and Jamaicans. More than 60 percent of the Bahamians were in Florida and 67 percent of Cape Verdeans were located in Massachusetts. California had about 74 percent of the Salvadorans in this country and high proportions of Guamanians/Chamorros, Guatemalans, and Nicaraguans.

**Single- or Multiple-Ancestry Groups**—The geographic distribution of single- and multiple-ancestry groups is presented in tables 3, 3a, and 3b. Of the population that specified at least one ancestry, the proportion with multiple-origin responses varied considerably by ancestry group and was probably influenced by such factors as period of immigration, age distribution, and cultural traditions. Data from the November 1979 Current Population Survey (CPS) showed that younger persons were more likely than older persons and native persons were more likely than foreign-born persons to report multiple ancestries. In the 1980 census, more than 80 percent of persons indicating Scottish or Welsh ancestry provided multiple responses (that is, part-Scottish or part-Welsh). Multiple origin responses were also frequently reported by some ancestry groups, such as Irish, Swiss, Lithuanian, and Indonesian. The proportion of multiple-ancestry responses was lower for other groups such as Greek (36 percent), Israeli (22 percent), Nigerian (8 percent),

Saudi Arabian (5 percent), and Afro-American (2 percent) (table 2).

## LIMITATIONS OF THE DATA

This section outlines some major limitations of the 1980 census ancestry data. The 1980 census was the first to use an open-ended ancestry question based on self-identification. Previous census studies and other survey research show that self-identification of ethnicity may be subject to misinterpretations or inconsistency in reporting. For instance, an evaluation of Current Population Survey (CPS) ethnic origin reporting using prelisted categories in two consecutive annual surveys showed that only about two-thirds of the population were consistent in reporting the same origin, and that the inconsistency was most likely to occur among certain groups, such as English, French, and Irish<sup>1</sup>. The level of inconsistency was one of the factors which led the Bureau to test and implement the open-ended ancestry question. Also, ethnic studies have shown that affiliation with an ethnic group may not be as strong among some Northern and Western

European groups as it is among other groups in the United States.

The review of 1980 census ancestry data showed that reporting and/or processing problems may have affected the data for a few ancestry groups. For instance, the number of Dutch West Indians was unexpectedly high in Oklahoma and Texas, as were Georgians (Russian origin) in Georgia and Aleuts in Hawaii.

In a preliminary evaluation of ancestry reporting, data from the 1980 census were compared with estimates from the November 1979 CPS. Both these sources used essentially the same open-ended type of ancestry question although there were some differences in data collection, sample size, population coverage, and processing procedures. However, the differences in some of the results between the sources are much greater than one might expect, even allowing for the factors noted above.

Comparison of the 1980 census and the November 1979 CPS ancestry data showed that the census had a substantially lower proportion (31 percent) of the total population reporting a multiple ancestry than in the CPS (38 percent). However, the proportions of persons (1) providing at least one specific ancestry, (2) responding "American," or (3) not responding to the ancestry question were consistent between the sources (table E).

The numerical differences in multiple-origin reporting between the census and the CPS were pronounced for six early European immigrant groups—Irish, Scottish, German, English, Dutch, and French—and the American Indian group. Another major difference was that twice

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Technical Paper No. 31*. "Consistency of Reporting of Ethnic Origin in the Current Population Survey," Also, see Edward Fernandez and Nampoo Mckenney, "Identification of the Hispanic Population: A Review of Census Bureau Experiences," paper delivered at the American Statistical Association meeting in Houston, Texas, 1980, and the section "Preliminary Evaluation of Responses in the Mexican Origin Category of the Spanish Origin Item," in the 1980 Census of Population *Supplementary Report* (PC80-S1-7), "Persons of Spanish Origin by State: 1980."

Table E. Type of Ancestry Response: 1980 Census and November 1979 CPS

(Numbers in thousands. For meaning of symbols, see Introduction)

Type of ancestry response	1980 census		1979 CPS			
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Standard error	
					Number	Percent
Total persons.....	226 546	100.0	216 613	100.0	...	...
Reported at least one specific ancestry.....	188 302	83.1	179 078	82.7	285	0.17
Single ancestry.....	118 565	52.3	96 496	44.5	476	0.23
Multiple ancestry.....	69 738	30.8	82 582	38.1	470	0.22
Ancestry not specified.....	38 243	16.9	37 535	17.3	373	0.17
American or Untied States.....	13 299	5.9	13 592	6.3	241	0.11
Other <sup>1</sup> .....	1 763	0.8	195	0.1	30	0.01
Not reported.....	23 182	10.2	23 748	11.0	309	0.14

Note: Calculation of the standard error for 1980 census ancestry data by type of response is explained in the "Accuracy of the Data" section of this report.

<sup>1</sup> Includes responses indicating religious groups or unclassifiable responses.



many persons provided a single response of English in the census as in the CPS. However, the census and CPS were more consistent in the reporting of single origin for each of the other groups (table F).

Some of the factors affecting differences in ancestry reporting between the census and the CPS are as follows: (1) Data collection procedures may have influenced the type of response provided. Information in the CPS was obtained by direct interview whereas census data were obtained through self-enumeration (i.e., respondents were asked to fill out the census form). The personal interview situation of the CPS may have directly or indirectly aided respondents in reporting their ancestral background more fully. (2) The 1980 census questionnaire design may have contributed to the differences in ancestry reporting. The prominence of the term "English" in the census question on language (which immediately preceded the ancestry question), and the listing of "English" as the

Table F. **Selected Ancestry Groups: 1980 Census and November 1979 CPS**

(Numbers in thousands)

Ancestry group	Total			Single			Multiple		
	1980 census	1979 CPS		1980 census	1979 CPS		1980 census	1979 CPS	
		Number	Standard error		Number	Standard error		Number	Standard error
American Indian....	6 716	9 900	207	1 921	2 053	96	4 795	7 847	186
Dutch.....	6 304	8 121	189	1 405	1 362	79	4 900	6 759	173
English.....	49 598	40 004	382	23 749	11 501	223	25 849	28 503	334
French <sup>1</sup> .....	12 892	14 047	244	3 062	3 047	117	9 830	11 000	218
German.....	49 224	51 649	418	17 943	17 160	268	31 281	34 489	361
Irish.....	40 166	43 752	395	10 337	9 760	206	29 828	33 992	359
Scottish.....	10 049	14 205	246	1 173	1 615	86	8 876	12 590	232

Note: Calculation of the standard error for 1980 census ancestry data by type of response is explained in the "Accuracy of the Data" section of this report.

<sup>1</sup>Excludes French Basque.

second example in the ancestry question may have influenced respondents to report a single entry of English.

More research and analysis is needed to determine whether a direct interview procedure or a self-enumeration procedure produces more reliable information on ancestry. The 1980 census post-enumeration studies will include an evaluation of the ancestry question.

## SYMBOLS USED IN TABLES

- A dash "—" represents zero or a percent which rounds to less than 0.1 or 0.01 where data are shown in hundreds.
- Three dots "... " mean not applicable.
- (NA) means not available from this 1980 census tabulation.
- n.e.c. means not elsewhere classified.

ANCESTRY

A general question on ancestry (ethnicity) was asked for the first time in a decennial census in 1980. The data on ancestry were derived from the answers to question 14 on the long-form sample questionnaire. (See facsimile of questionnaire item and instructions to respondents in this section.) The question was based on self-identification and was open-ended with space provided for a write-in entry. Ancestry refers to a person's nationality group, lineage, or the country in which the person or the person's parents or ancestors were born before their arrival in the United States. Thus, persons reported their ancestry group regardless of the number of generations removed from their country of origin. Furthermore, responses to the ancestry question reflected the ethnic group(s) with which persons identified and not necessarily the degree of attachment or association the person had with the particular ethnic group(s).

Respondents were instructed to be as specific as possible in reporting ancestry. Nevertheless, some persons provided ancestry categories such as "Slavic," "European," and "African," which encompass different ancestry groups. These types of responses are identified with an asterisk (\*) in this report.

**Single- and Multiple-Ancestry Responses.**—The 1980 census collected information on single- and multiple-ancestry groups. A large number of persons reported their ancestry by specifying a single ancestry, but some reported two, three, or more ancestry groups. All responses were coded manually by a procedure that allowed for identification of all single- and double-ancestry groups reported. In addition, 17 triple-ancestry categories were identified by unique codes, since they were reported frequently in previous Census Bureau surveys. The 17 unique triple-ancestry

categories with the number of persons who reported these groups are shown in table G. These combinations of ancestries were coded regardless of the order in which they were reported. All other multiple responses were coded according to only the first and second reported ancestry categories.

Persons reporting multiple ancestry groups are generally included in more than one category in the tables of this report. For example, in table 2, a person reported as "English-Irish" is counted in both the multiple categories "English" and "Irish." Persons reporting one of the unique three-origin groups were tabulated in each of the three ancestry categories. Since persons who reported multiple ancestries were included in more than one group, the sum of persons reporting at least one ancestry or a multiple ancestry is greater than the totals shown in the tables.

Table G. Unique Triple-Ancestry Categories Identified in the 1980 Census

Ancestry	Number reported
American Indian-English-French....	77 537
American Indian-English-Greman....	169 207
American Indian-English-Irish....	246 842
American Indian-German-Irish....	328 295
Dutch-French-Irish.....	43 201
Dutch-German-Irish.....	247 086
Dutch-Irish-Scotch (or Scottish)..	112 782
English-French-German.....	622 942
English-French-Irish.....	431 145
English-German-Irish.....	1 618 410
English-German-Swedish.....	102 278
English-Irish-Scotch (or Scottish)	897 316
English-Scotch (or Scottish)-Welsh	28 738
French-German-Irish.....	496 257
German-Irish-Italian.....	226 657
German-Irish-Scotch (or Scottish)..	667 507
German-Irish-Swedish.....	91 193

Some pairs of ancestry responses (e.g., French-Canadian, French-Basque) may appear to reflect multiple ancestries, but instead are unique ethnic groups and were treated as a single group. Persons reporting combinations of closely related ancestries, such as "German-Bavarian,"

were tabulated as a single ancestry (in this case, German). In addition, responses such as "Polish-American" or "Italian-American" were treated as a single entry (i.e., "Polish" or "Italian"). Also, responses such as "Irish-Catholic" and "Russian-Jewish" were treated as a single ancestry (i.e., "Irish" or "Russian"), since United States law forbids the collection of information on religious identification in a mandatory census.

Scotch-Irish is an ethnic group from Northern Ireland.<sup>1</sup> The response Scotch-Irish can refer to the unique single-ancestry group from Northern Ireland or to the multiple-ancestry group (both Scotch and Irish ancestry). Since the unique single response could not be distinguished from the multiple response, Scotch-Irish was treated as a multiple origin group and tabulated in both categories "Scotch" and "Irish." Tabulations planned for the PC80-2 subject reports on ancestry will provide the number of persons who reported as "Scotch-Irish." It will never be possible, however, to determine whether respondents intended to report a single response or a multiple-ancestry response.

**Ancestry Not Specified.**—Although respondents were instructed to provide a response which referred to their nationality group, lineage, or country in which they or their ancestors were born before their arrival in the United States, 13.3 million persons (or 6 percent) provided a single response of "American" or "United States." Another 1.8 million reported a religious group or an unclassifiable response. These types of responses, noted above, and persons who did not report an ancestry, were classified under the category "ancestry not specified." Since Title 13 of the United States Code

<sup>1</sup> In this report, data are also shown for the category "Northern Irishlander," which includes the response of "Northern Ireland" as well as the counties of Northern Ireland.

forbids the collection of information on religion in a mandatory census, single responses of religious groups and non-classifiable responses were assigned the same code during processing. When an ancestry response was missing, the person's ancestry was tabulated as "Not reported." Nonresponse to particular questions on the census questionnaire allows for the introduction of bias into the data since the characteristics of the nonrespondents have not been observed and may differ from those reported by respondents.

**Ancestry Classification**—The Bureau prepared a preliminary ancestry classification list for this report using a number of source materials, including the *Harvard Encyclopedia of American Ethnic Groups*. Persons knowledgeable in different aspects of ethnicity then reviewed the preliminary list for accuracy, consistency, and completeness. On the basis of a review of the comments, 1980 census results, and additional research, the Census Bureau finalized the list of ancestries shown in tables 2-4. The Bureau used a similar procedure to construct the 1980 census ancestry code list.

It should be recognized that persons knowledgeable in ethnic identification sometimes have different views on some classifications since several groups may justifiably be classified in various ways. As a result, some experts would have classified several groups in this report differently. In this context, particular attention is required regarding the ethnic

groups which originated from the areas now comprising the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics or which were once part of the Russian Empire and the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Some of the ethnic groups are still distinct, while others seem to have merged or disappeared in the United States. For example, a number of respondents reported the category Ruthenian and although some advisors still consider them a distinct group, others feel that Ruthenians should be combined with Ukrainians.

The response "Russian" presents another difficulty because it can have several meanings. It may mean Great Russian, or for some groups such as Russian Jews, Russian Moslems, Belorussians, and in some cases Ukrainians, it simply may refer to their country of origin. Hence, persons reporting Russian in the census may include those who identified with the specific ethnic group "Russian" as well as those who may have reported the term in a different context.

In the data presentation, several distinct ethnic groups (e.g., Ukrainian, Ruthenian, and Belorussian) were identified separately. However, the category "Russian n.e.c." includes diverse ethnicities; namely, 2.8 million persons who reported "Russian," "Great Russian," etc., as well as a small number (about 16,000) who reported Georgian, Bashkir, and other related European or Asian groups. (Fewer than 7,000 persons reported Asian groups such as Azerbaijani, Kazakhs, Yakuts, and Ossets.) Also included in the "Russian n.e.c." category is the response

"Rusyn," which originally applied to all Eastern Slavs; however, Rusyn, at present, is more appropriately categorized under the ancestry group "Ruthenian." Since the "Russian n.e.c." is predominantly European, it has been included under the "European, except Spaniard" classification in the tables. Additional information on some of the groups in the category "Russian n.e.c." should be available in the 1980 census PC80-2 subject report on the ancestry of the population.

More information about the classification of the ancestry groups shown in the tables follows:

1. The ancestry groups shown in tables 2-3b have been classified in the following 8 geographical/cultural groupings:
  - European (excluding Spaniard)
  - North African and Middle Easterner
  - Subsahara African
  - Asian (excluding Middle Easterner)
  - Non-Spanish Caribbean, Central and South American
  - Spanish
  - Pacific
  - North American

These groupings do not adhere to strict geographical or cultural definitions. The Spanish grouping, however, adheres to Federal Statistical Directive No. 15, which provides guidelines on racial and ethnic categories for all Federal agencies. Table H gives examples of the groups included in the residual categories of each geographical/cultural classification shown in

**Table H. Examples of Responses Included in Specified Residual Categories of the Eight Ancestry Classifications Presented in PC80-S1-10**

Ancestry groups and responses	Ancestry groups and responses	Ancestry groups and responses
Other European (excluding Spaniard) n.e.c. Example: Andorran Gibraltar Northern European* Southern European* Western European*	Other Subsahara African n.e.c.--Con. Example: Mauritanian Niger Rhodesian (Zimbabwe) St. Helena Islander Senegalese Seychelles Islander Somalian Sudanese Ugandan Zairian Zambian	Other West Indian or Central or South American (excluding Spanish) n.e.c. Example: Belize Caribbean French West Indian Surinam West Indian
Other North African or Middle Easterner n.e.c. Example: Algerian Kurdish Kuwaiti Libyan Oman Tunisian Yemeni	Other Asian (excluding Middle Easterner) n.e.c. Example: Afghan Asian* Burmese Indo-Chinese Malaysian Maldivian Okinawan Ceylonese (Sri Lankan)	Other Spanish n.e.c. Example: South American* Paraguayan Latino
Other Subsahara African n.e.c. Example: Chadian Comoros Islander Kenyan Liberian Malian		Other Pacific n.e.c. Example: Melanesian Micronesian (except Guamanian/Chamorro) Polynesian (except Hawaiian)
		Other North American n.e.c. Example: Greenlander

\*This category represents a general type of response, which may encompass several ancestry groups.

tables 2, 3, 3a, and 3b. The list of ancestry groups is not exhaustive. More information on the groups included in the residual categories is available from the Census Bureau upon request.

2. Several ancestry groups in tables 2-4 can be combined to obtain a total for a broad category; e.g., Croatian, Serbian, Slovene, and Yugoslavian\* may be combined for certain purposes.
3. Tabulation specifications for some 1980 reports, including this one, had to be prepared prior to review of 1980 census results. The 1980 census data revealed that a few additional groups, such as West Indian and Samoan should have been identified separately rather than combined with other groups in the tabulations. These few groups are not shown separately in tables 2-3b, which list groups of 5,000 or more; however, figures for each of the groups should be available later.
4. Ancestry groups with 100,000 or more persons are shown in table 4. However, this table does not include groups of 100,000 or more that (a) were specified in the race and Spanish-origin items of the 1980 census questionnaire (see facsimile of race and Spanish items), (b) represent general categories, such as European and African, referring to a continent or comparable geographical area, or (c) are shown as residual categories such as "Other European n.e.c." or "Other Pacific n.e.c."

## COMPARABILITY WITH RELATED DATA

**November 1979 Current Population Survey (CPS)**—The ancestry estimates from

the November 1979 CPS may not agree with the ancestry data from the 1980 census although the ancestry questions in both questionnaires were worded similarly. For instance, the CPS estimates were based on population controls from the 1970 census which were updated for changes in the population since that time. In addition, the CPS and the 1980 census used different procedures for collecting and processing the data: The information in the CPS was obtained through personal interview while the 1980 census was conducted primarily through self-enumeration in which questionnaires were mailed to householders who were asked to fill in the required information. A more detailed discussion of differences between the CPS and census data can be found in the "Limitations of the Data" section.

**Other 1980 Census Ancestry Tabulations**—Although the classification scheme and terminology used in this report are basically the same as that used in other 1980 census reports and summary tape files, the following differences in these sources should be noted:

1. This ancestry report presents a detailed list of single- and multiple-ancestry groups. In contrast, the 1980 Summary Tape File (STF) 3 shows a limited number of groups and STF 4 provides an intermediate level of listing. The census reports, PC80-1-C, *General Social and Economic Characteristics*; PHC80-2, *Census Tracts*, and PHC80-4, *Congressional Districts of the 98th Congress*, will present population totals for 15 single-ancestry groups and 6 multiple-origin groups.
2. The composition of the residual categories (e.g., other European and other North American) may differ from those in other data products.

3. Several improvements and changes have been introduced in the classification and terminology for this report. The geographical/cultural groupings differ slightly from those shown in STFs 3 and 4.

4. In addition, differences in terminology and content of specific categories are noted below in table 1.

Social and economic data for ancestry groups will appear in subsequent reports. The PC80-1-C, *General Social and Economic Characteristics*, reports will provide social and economic characteristics for 10 groups (6 constant and 4 variable) for each State. In addition, the presentation of social and economic data for a larger number of ethnic groups is planned for the PC80-2 subject report on ancestry of the population.

## RELATIONSHIP TO RACE AND SPANISH ORIGIN QUESTIONS

In the 1980 census, separate questions were also asked on race and Spanish origin (see facsimile of items 4 and 7). The relationship of the ancestry item to the race and Spanish origin items is described below.

**Race**—Since race was reported separately from ancestry, a person indicating a particular ancestry could be of any race. For example, persons reporting "Black or Negro" in the race item may have reported a single response of "Afro-American," "African," or "Jamaican" or more than one response in the ancestry question; likewise, persons reporting Chinese in the race item may have reported Chinese, Taiwanese, etc., or a multiple response

**Table 1. Comparison of Ancestry Categories in PC80-S1-10 With Those in Other 1980 Census Data Products**

Category in PC80-S1-10	STF 3	STF 4	PC80-1-C, PHC80-2, PHC80-4
Basque.....	Not available	Category labeled "Basque" excludes French Basque and Spanish Basque <sup>1</sup>	Not available
Czech.....	Not available	Category is labeled "Czechoslovakian"	Not available
French.....	Category labeled "French" includes French Basque	Category labeled "French" includes French Basque	Category labeled "French" includes French Basque
Gypsy, Rom.....	Not available	Category is labeled "Gypsy"	Not available
Russian n.e.c.....	Category is labeled "Russian" and excludes Georgian	Category is labeled "Russian" and excludes Georgian	Category is labeled "Russian" and excludes Georgian

<sup>1</sup>Spanish Basque is included in "Other Spanish" in STF 4; Basque n.e.c. in this report is equivalent to "Basque" in STF 4.

On the ancestry item. The number of persons reporting "American Indian" ancestry (6.7 million) was considerably higher than the number of persons reporting "American Indian" in the race item (1.4 million). Most persons who reported "American Indian" ancestry reported as White in the race item. Differences between data derived from the ancestry and race questions for some groups may reflect factors such as differences in the concepts of race and ancestry, ques-

tion format, etc. Additional evaluation is planned on this subject.

The race item is the *primary* source of data for the White, Black, American Indian, Eskimo and Aleut, and Asian and Pacific Islander groups.

**Spanish origin**—Data on the Spanish origin population shown in this report are based on the ancestry question; however, the 1980 census Spanish origin question (no. 7) is the *primary* identifier of

this population. Spanish origin population estimates derived from the ancestry and Spanish origin question may differ because of different question wording and format, respondent understanding of the question, etc. Cross-tabulations of the ancestry and Spanish origin items and post-censal evaluation will provide information about these differences. Also, the cross-tabulations will provide data on the composition of the "Other Spanish" category of the Spanish origin item.

Facsimile of questionnaire item 4.

<p><b>4. Is this person —</b></p> <p><i>Fill one circle.</i></p>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> White</td> <td><input type="radio"/> Asian Indian</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> Black or Negro</td> <td><input type="radio"/> Hawaiian</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> Japanese</td> <td><input type="radio"/> Guamanian</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> Chinese</td> <td><input type="radio"/> Samoan</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> Filipino</td> <td><input type="radio"/> Eskimo</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> Korean</td> <td><input type="radio"/> Aleut</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> Vietnamese</td> <td><input type="radio"/> Other — <i>Specify</i> →</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> Indian (Amer.)</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p><i>Print tribe</i> → _____</p>	<input type="radio"/> White	<input type="radio"/> Asian Indian	<input type="radio"/> Black or Negro	<input type="radio"/> Hawaiian	<input type="radio"/> Japanese	<input type="radio"/> Guamanian	<input type="radio"/> Chinese	<input type="radio"/> Samoan	<input type="radio"/> Filipino	<input type="radio"/> Eskimo	<input type="radio"/> Korean	<input type="radio"/> Aleut	<input type="radio"/> Vietnamese	<input type="radio"/> Other — <i>Specify</i> →	<input type="radio"/> Indian (Amer.)	
<input type="radio"/> White	<input type="radio"/> Asian Indian																
<input type="radio"/> Black or Negro	<input type="radio"/> Hawaiian																
<input type="radio"/> Japanese	<input type="radio"/> Guamanian																
<input type="radio"/> Chinese	<input type="radio"/> Samoan																
<input type="radio"/> Filipino	<input type="radio"/> Eskimo																
<input type="radio"/> Korean	<input type="radio"/> Aleut																
<input type="radio"/> Vietnamese	<input type="radio"/> Other — <i>Specify</i> →																
<input type="radio"/> Indian (Amer.)																	

Facsimile of questionnaire item 7.

<p><b>7. Is this person of Spanish/Hispanic origin or descent?</b></p> <p><i>Fill one circle.</i></p>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> No (not Spanish/Hispanic)</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> Yes, Mexican, Mexican-Amer., Chicano</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> Yes, Puerto Rican</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> Yes, Cuban</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> Yes, other Spanish/Hispanic</td> </tr> </table>	<input type="radio"/> No (not Spanish/Hispanic)	<input type="radio"/> Yes, Mexican, Mexican-Amer., Chicano	<input type="radio"/> Yes, Puerto Rican	<input type="radio"/> Yes, Cuban	<input type="radio"/> Yes, other Spanish/Hispanic
<input type="radio"/> No (not Spanish/Hispanic)						
<input type="radio"/> Yes, Mexican, Mexican-Amer., Chicano						
<input type="radio"/> Yes, Puerto Rican						
<input type="radio"/> Yes, Cuban						
<input type="radio"/> Yes, other Spanish/Hispanic						

Facsimile of questionnaire item 14.

**14. What is this person's ancestry?** *If uncertain about how to report ancestry, see instruction guide.*

*(For example: Afro-Amer., English, French, German, Honduran, Hungarian, Irish, Italian, Jamaican, Korean, Lebanese, Mexican, Nigerian, Polish, Ukrainian, Venezuelan, etc.)*

Facsimile of instructions to the respondent for questionnaire item 14.

**14. Print the ancestry group with which the person *identifies*.** Ancestry (or origin or descent) may be viewed as the nationality group, the lineage, or the country in which the person or the person's parents or ancestors were born before their arrival in the United States. Persons who are of more than one origin and who cannot identify with a single group should print their multiple ancestry (for example, German-Irish).

Be specific; for example, if ancestry is "Indian," specify whether American Indian, Asian Indian, or West Indian. Distinguish Cape Verdean from Portuguese, and French Canadian from Canadian.

A religious group should not be reported as a person's ancestry.